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(54) Title: USE OF Δ 5-ANDROSTENE-3 β -OL-7,17-DIONE IN THE TREATMENT OF ARTHRITIS (57) Abstract Arthritis can be treated by administering therapeutic amounts of Δ 5-androstene-3 β -ol-7,17-dione and metabolizable precursors thereof, such as Δ 5-androstene-3 β -acetoxy-7,17-dione, which are readily metabolized <i>in vivo</i> to Δ 5-androstene-3 β -ol-7,17-dione but are not appreciably metabolizable <i>in vivo</i> to androgens, estrogens or dehydroepiandrosterone. Such treatment can be prophylactic, ameliorative or curative in nature.		

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